(b) The action taken by the Government to prevent large scale smuggling of timber from Government forests in Belthangady Taluk?

SRI JIVIJEYA (Minister of State for Forests).—

(a) About 65 families have encroached forest land in Patrame of Belthangadi Taluk. illegally. They have destroyed the tree growth in the encroached portion by girdling and setting fire, and have cultivated lemon grass, citronella grass and topioca etc. Their houses have not been burnt or damaged and the agricultural crops have not been destroyed with the help of police forcibly. These unauthorised encroachers have been served with notices to vacate the area.

(b) Timely action has been taken from time to time to book the cases against the people indulging in illegal cutting of trees and smuggling of forest produces. During 1982—83 up-to-date, 272 forest offence cases have been detetcted by the department in Belthangady Taluk and action taken.

Close vigil is maintained by deploying protective staff at strategic points and through intensive patrolling by forest mobile squad.

Short Notice Question.—

Sub.—Officers Suspended/Reinstated in Public Works and Belthangady Irrigation Department.—

25. SRI. GOVIND P. VADEYARAJ (Kamalapur).—Will the Minister for Public Works and Irrigation be pleased to state.—

(a) the number of Engineers in Public Works and Irrigation Department (from Executive Engineer level to the Chief Engineer level) suspended during the past three years till the end of February 1983, on account of deriliction of duties, trap cases, raids on their respective residences and possessing wealth disproportionate to the known sources of ncome,

(b) out of th m the number of persons reinstated till today,

(c) out of them whether any such Engineer is promoted after reinstatement,

(d) the number of persons on whom prosecution have been launched;

(e) the stage at which the prosecution stands),

(f) whether it is not a fact that some of such suspended Engineer are reinstrated, even though presecution is pending against them in criminal courts till today;